

REMARKS

Claims 3, 13, and 16 are supported by the specification such as by original claim 3, and p. 6, lines 21-22.

Claims 14, 15 and 17 are supported by the specification such as by original claim 9, p. 5, lines 23-31, and p. 17, line 20 to p. 18, line 26.

Information Disclosure Statement

The references mentioned below were cited in the Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement of July 25, 2005 contained reference cited in the International Search Report and therefore copies are not required. However, for the convenience of the Examiner copies are forwarded herewith. It is requested that the Examiner initial the PTO-1449 and return it to the undersigned.

"Permeability of Plastics and Elastomers" 1995, Plastic Design Library, 1 page
Dominghaus Hans: "Die Kunststoffe und ihre Eigenschaften" 1992, VDI Verlag, Dusseldors 1992, 1 page

§ 103 Rejections

Claims 9-12 stands rejected under 35 USC § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Yokoyama et al. (2002/0007000) in view of Teijin Ltd (JP 59045107A) and Jeram et al. (4340709) and evidenced by Audsley (4929403).

Applicant's independent claims have been amended to recite a "hygroscopic support". The support is hygroscopic before, during, and after the support is employed in the manufacture of a mold as well as when the mold (having the hygroscopic support) is employed to manufacture (e.g. ceramic) microstructures such as barrier ribs of a PDP panel.

The Applicant reiterates that the polyester particles of Teijin Ltd. are heated with satd. or superheated steam to prevent water absorption during storage. Although such particles are

hygroscopic before such treatment, the polyester particles of Teijin Ltd. are no longer hygroscopic after such treatment. Accordingly, if such particles were formed into a plastic film, the resulting film would also not be hygroscopic.

In view of the above, it is submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. Reconsideration of the application is requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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